



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JUNE 10, 2003

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
MARVIN SMILON, HERBERT HADAD,  
MICHAEL KULSTAD  
(212) 637-2600

**NEWBURGH GUN RUNNER IS SENTENCED IN WHITE PLAINS  
FEDERAL COURT TO 234 MONTHS IN PRISON**

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that DESHAWN FERRELL, a/k/a "Shawn," who was convicted in March of multiple firearms charges, was sentenced today in White Plains federal court to 234 months' imprisonment.

FERRELL, 22, and his co-defendant Tyshea Mincey, 21, brothers from Newburgh, New York, had been convicted of participating in a conspiracy to engage in unlawful firearms trafficking, of engaging in the business of firearms dealing without a license, and of transporting firearms into, or receiving firearms in, the state where they reside. FERRELL was additionally convicted of traveling in interstate commerce to acquire firearms for the purpose of selling such guns without a license. This was the first trial resulting from a long-term investigation of violent and drug crime conducted jointly by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms ("ATF") and the City of

Newburgh Police Department.

The proof at trial showed that beginning in June of 2001, FERRELL began recruiting straw purchasers of firearms in Georgia to buy guns for him so that he could transport those guns to Newburgh for sale on the black market. Mincey assisted FERRELL by providing straw purchasers with cash and by selecting weapons for purchase. The proof showed that at least 18 handguns, including high powered weapons such as Intratec 9 mm. ("Tec 9") handguns and Masterpiece Arms 45 caliber ("MAC 10") handguns, were purchased for FERRELL and Mincey by the Georgia straw purchasers. Seven of those guns, plus 1 additional gun sold by FERRELL, were recovered by law enforcement officers, either during the execution of search warrants at homes of suspected drug dealers, or in the case of one, at the scene of an attempted murder.

In sentencing FERRELL today, United States District Judge CHARLES L. BRIEANT noted the seriousness of the activity at issue here, which put guns in the hands of the criminal element, and the need to send a message of deterrence.

Mincey's sentencing is scheduled for July 9, 2003. He faces a maximum of 15 years' imprisonment.

Mr. COMEY praised the outstanding investigative efforts of the ATF and the City of Newburgh Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorneys TERESA A. PESCE and GLENN C. COLTON are in charge of the prosecution.

03-140

###